**Callaghan Complex Gather Summary Report**

**December 2008-January 2009**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **HMA Name/#** | **Callaghan NV604**  **Rocky Hills NV605**  **Bald Mountain NV603**  **South Shoshone NV601** | **HMA Complex** | **Callaghan Complex** |
| **State/**  **Field Office** | **Mount Lewis Field Office, Battle Mountain District, Nevada** | **Dates of Gather** | **December 12-January 22, 2009** |
| **Person Submitting Report** | **Name: Shawna Richardson Phone: 775-635-4181** | | |

**GATHER ACTIVITIES PLANNED & COMPLETED**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Name of the HMA** | **Callaghan HMA** | **Bald Mountain HMA** | **Rocky Hills HMA** | **South Shoshone HMA** | **USFS outside HMA** | **Simpson Park Mountains, Outside HMA** | **Totals** |
| # Planned for Gather | 933 | 577 | 158 | 18 | 13 | 40 | 1,739 |
| Actual # Gathered | 905 | 609 | 145 | 17 | 18\*\* | 29 | 1,705 |
| # Planned for Removal | 848 | 481 | 80 | 18 | 13 | 40 | 1,480 |
| **Actual # Removed (JJ)** | 825 | 511 | 80 | 17 | 18 | 29 | **1,462** |
| # Planned for Release | 97 | 96 | 78 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 271 |
| Actual # Released | 80 | 98 | 65\* | 0 | 0 | 0 | 243 |
| # Treated with Fertility Control | 40 | 49 | 32 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 121 |
| Died/Destroyed – Natural/Unknown | 5 | 3 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 11 |
| Died/Destroyed – Gather Related | 0 | 8 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 8 |
| Shipped | 815 | 496 | 77 | 17 | With Callaghan | 29  Plus 1\*\*\* | 1,435 |
| Post-gather Population Estimate | 128-134 | 129 | 86 | 1 | 1-5 | 5-10 | 350-365 |
| Date completed | Jan. 4, 2009 | Jan. 22, 2009 | Jan. 9, 2009 | Dec. 22, 2009 | Jan. 6, 2009 | Jan. 7, 2009 | Jan. 23, 2009 |

\*One Rocky Hills mare escaped from the holding corrals.

\*\*These figures are included within the Callaghan HMA totals

\*\*\*One more stud was shipped to PVC from outside HMA near Battle Mountain.

\*\*\*\*A branded mare was returned from PVC that had been captured from Callaghan HMA.

Please see below for an overview of the Callaghan Complex gather, and a gather briefing by HMA. The euthanasia data is presented in a table at the end of the document. I will be compiling a much more detailed report for each HMA within the coming weeks. If you have specific questions, or are just curious about some of the additional gather information, please don’t hesitate to call or e-mail.

We have a lot of photos of the gather, including photos of some of the euthanized horses and other “oddities” encountered during the gather. I’ll be compiling and sending them out in the coming weeks.

**Overview: Callaghan Complex Gather Numbers:**

Capture 1,705

Euthanize/Died 19

Foster/Orphan 4

Branded/Private 5

Escape 1

Release 242

Fertility Control 121

Additional horse from Battle Mountain 1

Returned branded mare from PVC 1

Total shipped 1,435

Estimate ungathered 102-112

Estimate post gather population 350-365

AML 349-595

**Overview: Callaghan Complex Emergency Gather**

Throughout the gather of Callaghan and Bald Mountain HMAs, thin wild horses were captured with little reserves to carry them through the winter. These two HMAs were 5-7 times over the established AMLs, and with the area receiving less than 50% of the normal precipitation by the end of October, forage and water became very limiting for this large population.

In general, most mares were thin to moderately thin, with backbone, shoulders and withers accentuated. Many of these mares supported large, older foals that were still suckling, further draining their resources. Ribs and backbone could be felt on most foals regardless of size. Some of the 3-4 year old mares and studs were the worst in body condition and overall health.

Not all animals were in poor condition or health. In many cases, the larger percentage of studs were moderately thin to moderate, and appeared to have more body reserves and body muscling than the mares. Some pockets of healthy horses in moderate or higher body condition were captured from both HMAs. These animals represented less than 20-25% of the population.

Overall, the horses captured from the Bald Mountain and Callaghan HMAs were weak, and the gather pilot had to bring the animals to the trap sites slow and easy. Despite the fact that 8-10 inches of snow fell during the beginning of the gather in December, little has been received since, and much of the snow has melted from the Valley bottoms and lower foothills (the high elevation and mid slopes have continuous snow cover). There is little in the way of vegetation production in the lower areas, but the population has been reduced to about 1/5 of what it was, and the remaining horses should be able to locate adequate forage.

If the gather had not been conducted, wild horses on the Callaghan HMA would likely have been in serious distress by the end of December. A large portion of the population (40-50%) would likely have died, comprised mostly of foals and mares. The Bald Mountain HMA would have fared a little better, with an expected 20-30% death rate comprised mostly of older mares and studs, foals, and 3-4 year old mares and studs.

The Rocky Hills HMA horses were very healthy, with all age groups represented, and a larger than expected proportion of older horses. The horses were concentrated as expected near the primary water sources, requiring only two days to gather 145 horses into one trap. Food is not limiting in this HMA. Water sources are limiting, which has caused distribution concentrations, and resulting impacts to the forage resources in these areas. If this HMA had not been gathered, these forage resources would have taken a substantial hit next summer. Water sources may have not been adequate and water hauling would have been required. Because the population was gathered when the AML was not seriously exceeded (~116%), fewer older (unadoptable) horses had to be removed from the range that may have needed to be cared for in long-term holding. Most horses removed and shipped to PVC were 4 years of age or younger.

The gather resulted in the capture of 98% of our capture objectives for the Complex, and 93% of the estimated pre-gather population. The probability is high that the post gather population is at or very close to the low AML for these HMAs. Fertility control was administered to all mares released to the range. The growth rate of the Complex should be reduced over the next 4 years, preventing the high range of AML from being exceeded before 2013-2015. It should be a priority to re-gather this Complex before the population exceeds the AML to the degree that it had prior to this gather in order to reduce horses that need to be held at long term holding, and preserve rangeland and wild horse health.

**Summary of Gather Results by HMA**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Callaghan HMA** | **Mares** | **Stallions** | **Foals** | **Total** |
| (1) Pre-Gather Population Estimate | 391 | 370 | 234 | 995\* |
| (2) Gathered1 | 375 | 335 | 195 | 905 |
| (3) Treated and Released2 | 40 |  | 0 | 40 |
| (4) Untreated and Released | 0 | 40 | 0 | 40 |
| (5) Shipped to BLM Prep Facility | 327 | 294 | 194 | 815 |
| (6) Other losses (explain below)3 | 8 | 1 | 1 | 10 |
| (7) Ungathered4 | unk | unk | unk | 48-54 |
| (8) Estimated post-gather population5 | unk | unk | unk | 128-134 |

\*Includes USFS

*1 Line (2) should equal the sum of lines (3) through (6).*

*2 Must match the number shown on the PZP Application Report.*

*3 Line (6). Please explain the fate of any animals that were gathered but not included in lines (3), (4), or (5).*

*4 Should equal the estimated total number of horses on the range from the pre-gather census (line (1)) minus line (2). Please explain any discrepancies.*

*5 Line (8) should be the sum of lines (3), (4), and (7).*

*Please provide a narrative describing the important aspects of the gather, including costs.* ***(See gather briefing below)*** *If this is the first gather post fertility control treatment, please provide information in this narrative on the number of treated mares captured, physical condition, and if they were retreated or removed as excess animals.*

(6) 5 mares euthanized. 2 mares 1 molly mule and 1 gelding claimed. 1 foster foal.

(7) and (8) This HMA is contiguous with Bald Mountain HMA. Some of the Callaghan HMA horses may have travelled into Bald Mountain HMA and been gathered with that HMA. Also, the older age groups were not present with the Callaghan HMA horses. 24 of the 905 (2.6%) were 15 years or older. The modeling of this population indicates that 40 (4%) horses 15 years of age and older should have been present.

This information in conjunction with wild horse conditions on the gather indicate that a portion of this population may have died last spring and through the summer, reducing the pre-gather population below the estimate. The Pre-gather estimate was based on a census flight in March 2008. During this gather, a helicopter flight was conducted contributed to the determination of the ungathered total for this HMA.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Bald Mountain HMA** | **Mares** | **Stallions** | **Foals** | **Total** |
| (1) Pre-Gather Population Estimate | 261 | 232 | 114 | 607 |
| (2) Gathered1 | 256 | 227 | 126 | 609 |
| (3) Treated and Released2 | 32 | 0 | 0 | 32 |
| (4) Untreated and Released | 0 | 32 | 0 | 32 |
| (5) Shipped to BLM Prep Facility | 198 | 176 | 122 | 496 |
| (6) Other losses (explain below)3 | 9 | 2 | 4 | 15 |
| (7) Ungathered4 | unk | unk | unk | 31 |
| (8) Estimated post-gather population5 | unk | unk | unk | 129 |

(6) 8 mares, 2 studs and 1 foal euthanized/killed. 1 molly mule claimed. 3 orphan foals adopted.

(7) and (8) This HMA is contiguous with Callaghan HMA. A flight was conducted near the end of this gather.

With the numbers captured, and those observed from the helicopter, a revised pre-gather population of approximately 640 horses was determined. The additional horses could have been the result of movement from the Callaghan HMA. The additional horses could also be the result of missed horses during the March 2008 flight due to census inaccuracies etc.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Rocky Hills HMA** | **Mares** | **Stallions** | **Foals** | **Total** |
| (1) Pre-Gather Population Estimate | 64 | 66 | 36 | 166 |
| (2) Gathered1 | 56 | 64 | 25 | 145 |
| (3) Treated and Released2 | 32 | 0 | 0 | 32 |
| (4) Untreated and Released | 1 | 32 | 0 | 33 |
| (5) Shipped to BLM Prep Facility | 23 | 29 | 25 | 77 |
| (6) Other losses (explain below)3 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 3 |
| (7) Ungathered4 | unk | unk | unk | 21 |
| (8) Estimated post-gather population5 | unk | unk | unk | 86 |

(6) 3 studs were euthanized during the gather

(4) 1 untreated Rocky Hills mare escaped from the Holding Corrals, which were located in between Callaghan HMA and Rocky Hills HMA. She may return to Rocky Hills.

South Shoshone and Simpson Park Mountains are not included in the above tables.

**South Shoshone HMA – Cedar’s Pasture (AML 0)**

Captured 17 (all shipped) 7 mares, 8 studs, 2 foals

**Outside HMA -- Simpson Park Mountains**

Captured 29 (all will be shipped) 12 mares, 9 studs, 8 foals

One lone wild horse captured by Battle Mountain local rancher (followed the cows in). Retrieved by BLM personnel and shipped with rest of Callaghan Complex horses. Outside of HMA.

In the above tables, the mares, studs and foals identified within the Pre-Gather Population Estimate was derived through the WinEquus population model.

For numbers of foals gathered and shipped: Some foals were nearing 1 year of age. It is possible that some smaller yearlings could have been identified as foals. These figures will not match those on the shipping manifests to PVC because numerous yearling were shipped with foals and identified as foals on the manifest.

Because we do not know the sex of the ungathered horses, I have left the cells as “unk” in the above tables. If someone needs this information, it would be reasonable to identify the post gather population as 50:50 mares and studs.

**Gather Briefing – Callaghan HMA**

The Callaghan Complex gather began December 12, 2008. KG Livestock was the contractor. The west half of the Callaghan HMA was completed before taking a short break for the Christmas Holiday. The holding corrals were set up at the Boone Creek/Vaughn Ranch gravel pit. Four traps were used including one built into the holding corrals. This portion of the gather also involved gathering 17 horses from the South Shoshone HMA (Cedar’s Pasture), with an additional trap at this location.

A flight of the HMA was completed on December 21. The purpose of the flight was to identify ungathered horses remaining within the west side of the HMA, and obtain a preview of the wild horse distribution on the east side of the HMA. A total of 26 horses were observed within the west side of the HMA. A complete flight of the east side of the HMA was not made due to weather and time constraints. Fertility control was administered to 20 mares from the west side of the HMA on December 22. These 20 mares and 20 studs were released back to the HMA on December 22.

Animal condition within the west side of the HMA was predominately thin to moderately thin, especially in the northern portion where wild horse concentrations were highest. We estimated most animals at body condition class 4 and under. The back bones and ribs were accentuated on most mares. Some mares BCS 5 were gathered. Overall, the studs were better condition, but most were BCS 4. The overall appearance of these horses was that they have no reserves and minimal muscling. Older foals were still suckling on the mares, drawing them down in body condition further.

In the central portion of the HMA, fewer horses were thin, and in the southern portion of the HMA, horses were considered to be in good body condition, with most BCS 5 or higher.

Yellow discharge was observed from the noses of numerous horses (2-5%). It affected horses of all ages and condition classes (not specific to thinner or older horses). PVC took some nasal swabs of the affected horses. The cultures isolated two (heavy level) positive results for Streptococcus Zooepidemicus and one (low level) positive result for Staphylococcus.

Strep Zo: is the non-strangles form of Strep and pretty normal to have this form of upper respiratory infection this time of year. This infection is very treatable with antibiotics if need be.

Staph: usually some sort of skin disease. Rich did not see anything to be alarmed about.

The gather of the Callaghan HMA resumed on December 30, with holding corrals constructed north of the Grass Valley Ranch. Three traps were used to complete the remainder of the Callaghan HMA gather, including use of the holding corrals as a trap.

The body condition of the horses captured on the east side of the HMA was similar to that on the west side – thin and moderately thin horses. The horses captured from the Cowboy Rest trap in the northeast portion of the HMA were some of the thinnest horses captured during the whole gather -- many estimated to be BCS 3 – with spines and hip bones accentuated (even some studs). Many of the horses had overall un-thrifty appearance with shaggy haircoats. It was noted that several horses had the appearance of tails that had been chewed on. The horses gathered were of mixed condition and some healthier, well muscled larger horses were captured.

A total of 20 mares and 20 studs were chosen for release on this side of the HMA. The studs were released on January 7. Fertility control was administered to all 20 mares which were subsequently released on January 13. Due to the additional time in the holding corrals and the crowded conditions in the pens, the mares appeared to lose weight during their stay.

Because of the condition of the horses, and the sheer number of horses that had to be removed to achieve AML, the Selective Removal Policy was not followed to the letter. Selection for horses to release back to the range for the Callaghan HMA focused on health with the horses in BCS 4.5 or higher and good muscling being chosen as a high priority regardless of age. Second priority was overall body size and conformation, followed by historic color traits. Refer to note above about older age groups not being present.

The last gather of this HMA was completed in 2002. Fertility control has not been implemented on this HMA in the past.

The weather for most of the Callaghan HMA gather could be considered winter-like. Snow cover was continuous over most of the HMA. Conditions were often cold. Several stormy days were encountered, but we were prevented from gathering for just one day, and were unable to ship one day due to weather.

We received assistance from Lander County Road and Bridge which cleared the Grass Valley road to U.S. Highway 50 so that the trucks could get out. They also cleared a road up to Cowboy Rest, and a spot for the trap.

As the Callaghan HMA was finished, 29 horses outside of the HMA were gathered from the Simpson Park Mountains with the use of one trap and helicopter assisted roping. All of these horses were shipped to PVC

**Gather Briefing – Rocky Hills HMA**

Due to the distribution and concentration of wild horses near the existing waters within the HMA, the gather was completed in 2 days with 145 total captured. Only one trap was necessary, and the Grass Valley Holding Corrals were utilized. This area was gathered after the 1999 wildfires burned nearly half of the HMA. Horses were removed and held in a contract facility for 3 years and horses released back to the HMA in 2002. These horses were freezemarked on the neck, and a number “5” freezemarked on the hip. We gathered many of these horses again, and they are doing very well. Most horses were BCS 4.5-5+. The Rocky Hills HMA horses are in very good body condition (remember, this herd is limited by water, not feed).

There were a few of the older (25-30 years of age) horses that were thin/poor. In contrast to the gather of the Callaghan HMA, we gathered numerous “older” horses that were 15 and older (18, 20, 25, 30, etc.) These age groups are part of a normal age structure, and were missing for the Callaghan HMA. 19 of the 145 captured (13%) were 15 years of age or older. The population modeling completed for the HMA indicated that only 15 (9%) would be 15 years or older. The overall health, size, and age structure of the Rocky Hills HMA is very good.

The WinEquus population modeling indicated that horses 2 years of age and younger should be able to be removed, and low AML achieved on the HMA, allowing for the release of horses 3 years of age and older. As the sorting of captured horses began, it became apparent that there were many horses 3 years of age and older (more than anticipated). The removal objectives were modified slightly, but even still, only about half of the horses 3 years of age and a hand full of horses 4 years of age were shipped to PVC. Only a few horses 5 years old or older were shipped to PVC, thereby minimizing the number of horses that may go to long term holding.

We received help from the MLFO Operations crew which cleared a road into the Rocky Hills HMA. A spell of warm weather began melting most of the snow, creating muddy roads. Overall, weather for this portion of the gather was clear and cool/warm with highs in the low 50’s.

On January 10, 32 studs were released back to the HMA. Fertility control was administered to 32 mares, which were subsequently released on January 13. During sorting of the Callaghan and Rocky Hills mares at the holding corrals, one Rocky Hills mare jumped the panels and escaped into the Callaghan HMA. There is no fence between the Callaghan and Rocky Hills HMAs, and the mare should be able to return to the Rocky Hills HMA if she desires. Fertility control has not been administered to the horses in this HMA in the past.

**Gather Briefing –Bald Mountain HMA**

With the completion of the Rocky Hills HMA gather and release of the studs back to the HMA on January 10, the Bald Mountain HMA gather began. The east side of the HMA was gathered first through the use of one trap and helicopter assisted roping.

We encountered several issues as the gather began. (1) A stretch of warm weather had caused much of the snow to melt, resulting in muddy roads (not impassable, but messy). (2) Despite the fact that an estimated 2/3 of the horses should have been located on the east side of the HMA, they appeared to disappear and could not be located. (3) These horses handled very poorly, which may be a result of historic private aircraft activity in the area. They were difficult to load, and work at the holding corrals. They were more difficult than normal to age, and load for shipping. Kicking, rearing, jumping, and having fits in general above and beyond what we typically anticipate. As a result, 2 horses were instantly killed after impacting panels at the trapsite, and several had to be euthanized due to injuries sustained during the gather.

Once most of the east side of the HMA had been gathered, the Holding Corrals were moved to the Filipinni Ranch at the north end of the HMA. A trap was constructed in the central portion of the HMA, which allowed horses to be gathered from about 270 degrees.

Because the horses were difficult to locate and appeared to have scattered widely within the HMA, a helicopter flight was scheduled. On January 19, 120 horses were observed within the HMA. The gather continued for the next several days to gather everything but an estimated 31 horses. Fertility control was administered to 49 mares. On January 21 and 22, 49 mares and 49 studs were released back to the HMA. Fertility control has not been administered to this HMA in the past, and the last gather conducted by the BLM was in 1981.

Animal condition throughout the HMA was variable. Horses gathered on the east side of the HMA (where concentrations were highest and resources most limited) were in the poorest condition similar to the condition of the Callaghan HMA horses. Most horses were estimated to be in BCS 4 or under. Few horses (mostly studs) were considered to be in good condition or well muscled. Most mares showed accentuated backbone and ribs. All age groups were represented within the horses captured, and no specific age group in better or worse condition than any other. By the end of the gather several of the release mares and studs exhibited snotty noses.

Within the central portion of the HMA, approximately 40-50% of the horses were thin, with estimated BCS 3.5-4.0.; the remaining animals were healthy, well muscled and BCS 4.5-5.0. Most foals were large and healthy. Contrary to the Callaghan HMA gather, old (25-30 year old) horses were gathered from Bald Mountain HMA. About half were in thin but acceptable body condition, and half were thin. Most had good teeth for their age. Several of the poorer horses were selected for release back to the range to avoid stress of handling/shipping. 44 of the 609 horses captured (7.2%) were 15 years of age or older. WinEquus population modeling indicated that 58 horses (9.5% of the population) would be captured that were 15 years of age or older.

Selection for horses to release back to the range focused on horses 4 years of age and older. Due to the sheer number of horses needed to remove to achieve low AML, the Selective Removal Policy could not be followed exactly. One of the priorities for release horses selected was health. Poor, thin or less thrifty horses were not selected for release. Since this was the first gather since 1981, little knowledge existed about the historical traits of the herd. Many large draft (Belgian) influenced grey horses were gathered from the central portion of the HMA. Other traits included many frosted type horses with splashed white faces, roaning on the chest and flanks, and high white stockings. Several paint horses were captured which result from the close proximity to Callaghan HMA.

| **Callaghan Complex Euthanasia Summary** | | | | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Date** | **Sex** | **Estimated Age** | **Description** | **Euthanasia criteria** | **Gather Related** | **Pre-existing/non-gather related** |
| **Callaghan HMA -- West** | | | | | | |
| 12-22 | mare | 18 | BCS <3, blind in one eye. Euthanized. | 1, 2, 4, 5 |  | **√** |
| mare | 20+ | BCS 3.5, Excessive too wear/teen worn clear to the gums. Euthanized. | 1, 2 and B |  | **√** |
| **Callaghan HMA -- East** | | | | | | |
| 12-30 | mare | 20+ | BCS 2, Excessive too wear, worn to the gums. The horse would suffer if not being euthanized in a timely manner. | 1, 2, 4, and conditions A and B |  | **√** |
| 1-2 | mare | 10 | BCS <2, weak, unable to stand, nasal discharge. Euthanized as an act of mercy at the trap. | 3, 4, and B |  | **√** |
| 1-4 | mare | 2 | Young, unthrifty mare with serious deformity/congenital defect to the front legs and withers. Euthanized. | 2, 3, 5. |  | **√** |
| **Rocky Hills HMA** | | | | | | |
| 1-9 | stud | 25-30 | BCS 3.0-3.5, Excessive tooth wear. Euthanized. | 2 and B |  | **√** |
| stud | 25-30 | BCS 3.0-3.5, Excessive tooth wear. Euthanized. | 2 and B |  | **√** |
| stud | 7 | Broken penis. The animal was clearly suffering, and would not recover with veterinary care. Euthanized as an act of mercy. | 2, 3, 5, and A |  | **√** |
| **Bald Mountain HMA** | | | | | | |
| 1-11 | mare | 3 | Bolted into the trap and impacted the corral panels sustaining fatal injury.[[1]](#footnote-1) | Accidently killed at trap | **√** |  |
| stud | 17 | Bolted into the trap and impacted the corral panels sustaining fatal injury.1. | Accidently killed at trap | **√** |  |
| mare | 12 | Bolted into the trap and impacted the corral panels sustaining acute head injury. Euthanized.1. | A | **√** |  |
| 1-14 | mare | 20+ | BCS 2, Excessive tooth wear. Euthanized. | 2, 4, and B |  | **√** |
| 1-15 | stud | Unk. | Broken penis. Euthanized as an act of mercy. | 2, 3, 5 |  | **√** |
| 1-18 | mare | 19 | BCS 3. Crippled. Injured hind leg while in holding corrals. Had been identified for release, likely captured 5-7 days ago. Euthanized. | 1, 3, 4, 5, and A | **√**  **Likely** |  |
| 1-18 | mare | 4 | Severe lameness to the stifle joint – unable to support weight, animal in pain. Injury occurred from the gather or while in the holding corrals. Euthanized. | 3, 5, and A | **√**  **Likely** |  |
| 1-18 | mare | 3 | Spinal injury/congenital defect. Euthanized. | 2, 5 |  | **√** |
| 1-18 | mare | 12 | Recently captured animal. Acute injury to the knee and severed tendons. Could have occurred while being captured via a fall, rodent hole, laceration by sharp rock etc. Euthanized as an act of mercy. | 1, 3, 3, and A | **√**  **Likely** |  |
| 1-10 | mare | 12 | Found deceased in the release mare pen, apparent fatal kick to the head. | Died | **√**  **Likely** |  |
| 1-22 | filly | weanling | Internal injury, or back injury. Treated with penicillin and electrolytes. Animal could not stand or safely make the trip to PVC. Euthanized as an act of mercy. | 1, 3, 5 and A | **√**  **Likely** |  |

1. Muddy conditions and horse behavior contributed to the accidents. Contractor made immediate changes to the trap to help prevent a re-occurrence. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)